

MONTHLY FIRE WEATHER / FIRE DANGER OUTLOOK

1. REPORTING UNIT: Alaska Interagency Coordination Center, Predictive Services

2. DATE: 5/24/06

3. POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS/CRITICAL FIRE PROBLEMS

June 2006	BELOW NORMAL		NORMAL	X	ABOVE NORMAL	
THIS SEASON	BELOW NORMAL		NORMAL	X	ABOVE NORMAL	

COMMENTS:

4. FIRE WEATHER OUTLOOK

DROUGHT CONDITIONS: The southeast half of mainland Alaska has been classified as abnormally dry by the U.S. Drought Monitor.

PRECIPITATION ANOMALIES AND OUTLOOK: The first week of June is forecast to have below normal precipitation over the south half of the state including the panhandle, and above normal precipitation north of the Brooks Range. The remainder of June is forecast to have near normal precipitation.

TEMPERATURE ANOMALIES AND OUTLOOK: The first week of June is forecast to have above normal temperatures across the entire state. The remainder of June will have above normal temperatures over the southwestern half of the state, and near normal temperatures over the northeastern half of Alaska.

5. FUELS: Nearly the entire state is snow free with the exception of some high elevation or northernmost stations. Fire danger is very high in the fine fuels in the south central region extending from the Kenai Peninsula into the Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna valley, with some moderate fire activity. Primarily the hazard is from dry grass which will moderate as green-up progresses in these fuels. South of the Alaska range has experienced little or no precipitation in the past two weeks. Expect some conifer – spruce involvement with ignitions. The northern region fuels are curing in the month of June, and will dry mosses and involve some black spruce with the predicted warm temperatures. Human caused ignitions are typical, but expect lightning activity this month.

FINE - GRASS STAGE	GREEN	X	CURED	X		
NEW GROWTH	SPARSE		NORMAL	X	ABOVE NORMAL	

LIVE FUEL MOISTURE (sage, deciduous, conifer): deciduous hardwoods are greening up

1000 HOUR DEAD FUEL MOISTURE: N/A

NORMAL/AVERAGE FUEL MOISTURE FOR THIS TIME OF YEAR: N/A

6. **AVERAGE FIRE OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED (to date 5 year average):** 165 fires for 135,107 acres.

7. **ACTUAL OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED (to date this year):** 80 for 671 acres.

8. **WRITTEN SUMMARY:**

Alaska	
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Precipitation Outlook	The first week of June is forecast to have below normal precipitation over the south half of the state including the panhandle, and above normal precipitation north of the Brooks Range. The remainder of June is forecast to have near normal precipitation.
Temperature Outlook	The first week of June is forecast to have above normal temperatures across the entire state. The remainder of June will have above normal temperatures over the southwestern half of the state, and near normal temperatures over the northeastern half of Alaska.
Fuels and Fire Danger Concerns	Nearly the entire state is snow free with the exception of some high elevation or northernmost stations. Fire danger is very high in the fine fuels in the south central region extending from the Kenai Peninsula into the Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna valley, with some moderate fire activity. Primarily the hazard is from dry grass which will moderate as green-up progresses in these fuels. South of the Alaska range has experienced little or no precipitation in the past two weeks. Expect some conifer – spruce involvement with ignitions. The northern region fuels are curing in the month of June, and will dry mosses and involve some black spruce with the predicted warm temperatures. Human caused ignitions are typical, but expect lightning activity this month.
Prescribed fire implications	No Prescribed fire concerns.
Miscellaneous	

9. FIRE POTENTIAL MAP: Normal